

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1413

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the members and coaches of the East Nashville Magnet School Eagles boys' basketball team upon winning the TSSAA Division I, Class AA state championship.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in recognizing an outstanding group of young men who worked closely together as a team to reach the very pinnacle of athletic competition; and

WHEREAS, the East Nashville Magnet School Eagles boys' basketball team recently won the first state championship in program history after coming so close in their six previous state tournament appearances; and

WHEREAS, East Nashville enjoyed an outstanding regular season, going undefeated in district play to finish 21-3 overall and handily winning the District 8-AA tournament with victories over Stratford and arch-rival Pearl Cohn; and

WHEREAS, in Region 4-AA competition, the Eagles destroyed Grundy County and Community before besting Pearl Cohn for the fourth consecutive time this season in the semifinals; in the region final, East Nashville torched Jackson County by 37 points to earn a bid to the TSSAA Division I, Class AA state tournament; and

WHEREAS, the Eagles were indeed flying high during their state championship run; they blasted Summertown by 18 points, then beat Power Center by 11 points, and crushed Milan by 17 points in the final to claim championship laurels; and

WHEREAS, East Nashville won an incredible twenty-four of their final twenty-five games and nine consecutive post-season games to win the state title and finish the season with a remarkable 33-3 record; and

WHEREAS, the members of this extraordinary squad are Jarrod Taylor, District 8-AA Player of the Year and Class AA Mr. Basketball finalist; Jaylen Jones, Class AA state tournament Most Valuable Player; Adrian Wilkerson; Jordan Crawford; Willie Wilson; Frank Gordon IV; Michael Armstrong; Cullen Cleaves; Josiah Jones; Adrian Boyd; Jacolby Summers; Michael Counts; and Pocjowk Nyapal; and

WHEREAS, as members of this championship team, Willie Wilson and Frank Gordon IV became the first two players in the history of Metro Nashville sports to play in the state championship game in both football and basketball; and

WHEREAS, East Nashville's championship season was made possible by the stellar leadership of their head coach, Avery Patton, District 8-AA Coach of the Year; assistant coaches, Dorris Patton and Shawn Williams; and director of basketball operations, Lamont Bowers; and

WHEREAS, the East Nashville Eagles dominated their competition to finish the long and arduous season as state champions, and they are most worthy of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the members and coaches of the East Nashville Magnet School Eagles boys' basketball team upon winning the TSSAA Division I, Class AA state championship and extend to them our best wishes for much continued success, both on and off the court.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.